

# **Service Area Plan**

## ***Department of Social Services***

### ***Social Worker Services (46006)***

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## **Service Area Background Information**

### **Service Area Description**

This service area funds units dedicated to adults, children and families: Adoptions, Adult Services, Child Protective Services, Domestic Violence, Newcomer Services and Foster Care/Family Preservation and Independent Living programs administered by the local departments of social services. The programs are designed to address those who are most in need. The 120 local departments of social service balance the role of providing effective intervention, when necessary, and emphasizing personal responsibility with ensuring the safety, stability and well being for the most vulnerable of our populations. The programs of the Department of Social Services are state supervised and locally administered. The division programs operated at the local level may include Adoptions, Adult Services, Adult Protective Services, Auxiliary Grants ,Child Abuse and Neglect Toll-Free Hotline, Child Protective Services, Domestic Violence, Foster Care, Independent Living for Foster Care Youth ,Safe and Stable Families

### **Service Area Alignment to Missio**

This service area supports the Virginia Department of Social Services mission of "People working together to promote safety, permanency, and well-being for the children, families, and individuals that we serve."

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#### **Service Area Statutory Authority**

The Code of Virginia provides statutory authority for the provision of all Foster Care Program activities through the following Titles, Chapters and Section: Title 63.2, Chapters 1, 2 and 3 - General provisions, State Social Services and Local Boards of Social Services; §63.2-410 - State pool of funds under the Comprehensive Services Act ; 63.2 Chapter 9 - Foster Care; Title 63.2 Chapter 11 - Implementation of the Interstate Compact on the Placement of Children; 63.2-1509 - Failure to report; Title 16.1 §§16.1-251; 16.1-252, 16.1-277.01, 16.1-277.02, 16.1-278.2, 16.2-278.3, 16.1-278.4, 16.1-281, 16.1-282, 16.1-282.1, 16.1-283. Title 22.1 §22.1-287.D.3 - Limitation on access to records.

Child Abuse Prevention and Treatment Act, as amended, 42.U.S.C. 5101 et seq; 42 U.S.C. 5116 et seq. provides grants to States for the purpose of assisting States in developing, establishing, and operating programs designed to improve the handling of child abuse and neglect cases, including child sexual abuse, child fatalities, and children with disabilities.

Title II - Community-Based Grants for the Prevention of Child Abuse and Neglect, 42 U.S.C 5116 provides funding to support community-based efforts to develop, operate, expand, enhance, and, where appropriate to network, initiatives aimed at the prevention of child abuse and neglect, and to support networks of coordinated resources and activities to better strengthen and support families to reduce the likelihood of abuse and neglect.

The Victims of Crime Act of 1984, P.L. 98-473 provides federal funds to States for the purpose of assisting victims of crime. The Department of Social Services administers the child abuse victim services portion of these funds through an inter-agency agreement with the Department of Criminal Justice Services.

Chapter 15, Article 1, of the Code of Virginia: governs the Child Protective Services Program  
22VAC40-700-10 et seq. Child Protective Services Central Registry Information

Title IV-E, of the Social Security Act: provides federal financial participation in adoption assistance, requires states to recruit prospective adoptive families that reflect the population of children in foster care waiting for adoption, and prohibits states from delaying or denying adoptive placements based on the geographical location of the child and prospective adoptive parent;

Title IV-B, of the Social Security Act: provides funding for Safe and Stable Families, 20% of which is to be dedicated to adoption services, and funding for child welfare services;

22VAC40-260-20. Subsidy. Adoption Assistance shall be executed by the agency or child placing agency for all children who have been determined eligible for subsidy.

22VAC40-240-20: Responsibilities of the agency in juvenile court proceeding for parental placement adoptions: includes conducting home studies, providing reports to court, and reporting illegal activities to the Commissioner.

22VAC40-250-20. The Adoption Resource Exchange of Virginia: the purpose of the Adoption Resource Exchange of Virginia is to increase opportunities for children to be adopted by providing services to agencies having custody of these children.

Code of Federal Regulations 45 Public Welfare, Chapter IV, Parts 400 & 401. The federal Office of Refugee Resettlement gives the Governor or his designee the authority to delegate responsibility for the administration of the Virginia Refugee Resettlement Program to the State Refugee Coordinator.

63.2-1605 - Protective Services for Aged and Incapacitated Adults

63.2-1601 - Authority to Provide Adult Foster Home Services

63.2-1600 - Homemaker, Companion, or Chore Services

37.1-98 - Discharge, Conditional Release, and Convalescent Status of Patients

37.1-197 - Community Services Board; Powers and Duties

37.1-197.1 - Prescription Team

2.7-708 - Coordination of Local Long-Term Care Services

32.1-330 - Preadmission Screening Required

63.2-800 - Auxiliary Grants (AG)

63.2-1804 - Uniform Assessment Instrument.

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#### **Service Area Customer Base**

Customer(s)	Served	Potential
Businesses (served unknown; potential unlimited)	0	0
Children and Families (potential unlimited)	84,460	0
Community Action Agencies	3	80
Employees	962	1,650
Faith Based Organizations	336	1
Federal agencies	6	3
General Public (potential unlimited)	4,025	0
Local Departments of Social Services	120	120
Low income individuals and families (potential unlimited)	6,637	0
Media (potential unlimited)	50	0
Non-custodial parents (potential unlimited)	25	0
Non-profits	77	103
Policy Makers ( potential unlimited)	300	0
Providers ( potential unlimited)	779	0
State and local government (agencies) (potential unlimited)	260	0
Vulnerable adults (potential unlimited)	300	0

#### **Service Area Partners**

**Community Action Agencies**

**Local Departments of Social Services**

**State Agencies**

**Virginia Institute for Social Services Training Activities (VISSTA)**

**Volunteer Organizations**

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#### **Service Area Products and Services**

- Support of organizations serving communities
- Recruitment of volunteers and training on management of volunteers
- Services to promote family stability
- Services to protect vulnerable adults
- Economic assistance to low income families/individuals or nutrition, child care, health care eligibility, and financial assistance to low income families/individuals
- Financial support for children
- Services that promote sufficiency
- Services to protect children
- Services to ensure that children have permanent homes
- Support Services (i.e. HR, IS, etc.)?
- Photo-listing books of children waiting for adoption
- Photo-listing books of approved adoptive families
- Display boards for recruitment
- Brochures and pamphlets on Family Services
- Up-dated recruitment brochures
- Contracts with private child placing agencies and community organizations to provide a full array of adoption services.
- Annual newsletters
- Handbook for attorneys on Virginia's adoption laws
- Refugee Elderly Assistance Program (REAP): interpretation & translation; health screenings and workshops; citizenship preparation; English language training; and employment training.
- Independent Living training for Local departments of social services staff
- Training professionals in kinship care
- Training kinship care providers

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#### Factors Impacting Service Area Products and Services

With a significantly increased population of vulnerable adults and growing demand for adult services and adult protective services, more social workers, institutional and home care workers, more regional and state supervisory staff will be needed, and A large percentage of recent refugee arrivals to the United States more training of workers and staff members will be required.

More training materials and public education materials and programs will be needed. These situations may require revised services and products for the customer base.

The factors impacting products and services for older youth include the lack of adequate funding and resources for providing independent living services and the lack of community support and involvement with these young people. These are especially critical components of helping older youth successfully transition to adulthood given the nationwide trend of increased numbers of youth over age 13 entering the foster care system and exiting to independent living situations.

The majority of children in foster care with the goal of adoption are children with special needs and will require state and federal funds for adoption assistance. As the number of children achieving adoption increases, it can be expected that expenditures for adoption assistance will increase.

Funding for prevention and in-home services to prevent foster care placement is inadequate, resulting in children entering the foster care system solely to receive needed mental health and physical health treatment. Virginia law does not mandate that prevention services be provided in order to prevent the possibility of placement in foster care placement. Foster care placement is more expensive than in-home prevention services. The lack of adequate funding for prevention services therefore places a greater financial burden on the citizens of the Commonwealth to fund sometimes unnecessary foster care placements. It is foreseeable Federal funding could be reduced in fiscal year 2006 for Family Services programs.

#### Anticipated Changes To Service Area Products and Service

A new Adult Protective Services web-based case management system will come on line in 2005, which should make case management and reporting more efficient and provide easier access to case information for LDSS supervisors and managers. The completion of the OASIS, the child welfare system is scheduled for 2007.

Complete development of the Office of Newcomer Services Virginia Refugee Resettlement Program information system.

#### Service Area Financial Summary

Funding for the Social Worker Services comes from general funds (84.5%) and federal funds (15.5%). The federal fund percentages are based on cost allocation. Federal funding sources include the Social Services Block Grant (SSBG), Title IV-E Foster Care and Adoptions, TANF, Child Welfare Services grant, Medicaid, and Food Stamps.

	<u>Fiscal Year 2007</u>		<u>Fiscal Year 2008</u>	
	General Fund	Nongeneral Fund	General Fund	Nongeneral Fund
<b>Base Budget</b>	\$20,336,981	\$132,662,421	\$20,336,981	\$132,662,421
<b>Changes To Base</b>	\$3,974,613	\$2,890,628	\$3,974,613	\$2,890,628
<b>SERVICE AREA TOTAL</b>	<b>\$24,311,594</b>	<b>\$135,553,049</b>	<b>\$24,311,594</b>	<b>\$135,553,049</b>

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**Service Area Objectives, Measures, and Strategies**

**Objective 46006.01**

***Deliver timely and accurate policy guidance for services programs***

Numerous contracts are maintain within division to support the needs of children and adults.

**This Objective Supports the Following Agency Goals:**

- Deliver high-quality customer-focused services  
( The achievement of this objective will support Goal 4 of the VDSSS Strategic Plan and Long term objective of the State to be recognized as the best –managed state in the nation.)

**This Objective Has The Following Measure(s):**

● **Measure 46006.01.01**

***Monitoring local agency improvement related to the Program Improvement Plan (PIP)***

**Measure Type:** Output

**Measure Frequency:** Quarterly

**Measure Baseline:** New measure, baseline data not available. Baseline will be established using FY06 data.

**Measure Target:** Specific target will be determined once baseline is established.

**Measure Source and Calculation:**

Family services systems

**Objective 46006.01 Has the Following Strategies:**

- Provide training to Local agency staff.
- Development of new policy to support best practices.
- Program reviews.